# The Achievement Index Glossary of Terms

Lowest 5% Tier

All Priority Schools are placed into the Lowest 5% Tier regardless of Achievement Index rating. A Priority School is a school that has room for substantial improvement in whole school proficiency and growth (and/or graduation rate for high schools). The Lowest 5% Tier Schools are among the persistently lowest-achieving schools in Washington based upon whole school proficiency, growth, and/or graduation rates over three years. The engagement of the OSPI and district leadership is required to support the school in school improvement planning and frequent monitoring of the school's implementation of its improvement plan.

**Underperforming Tier** 

All Focus Schools are placed into the Underperforming Tier regardless of Achievement Index rating. A Focus School is a school that has substantial room for improvement in subgroup proficiency and growth (and/or graduation rate for high schools). In 2013 other low-performing schools (Composite Index rating less than or equal to 4.464) were included in the Underperforming Tier. Focus Schools are required to engage with support from the OSPI and the school district. Other non-Focus Schools identified in the Underperforming Tier are encouraged to use supports from the OSPI and the school district.

Fair Tier

All schools (Non-Priority and Non-Focus) with a 2013 Composite Index rating between 4.467 and 5.859 were placed into the Fair Tier. Schools characterized as Fair may have some areas of success but require substantial improvements. School Improvement Plans focus on meeting the needs of all students and closing the achievement gap among subgroups.

**Good Tier** 

Schools in the Good Tier have more areas of success as compared to areas that need improvement relative to student proficiency and/or student growth on the State assessments. School Improvement Plans concentrate on meeting the needs of all students and closing the achievement gap among subgroups.

#### **Very Good Tier**

A Very Good Tier School is among the higher performing schools in Washington in student proficiency and/or student growth on the State assessments. The school is acknowledged for its achievement with public recognition and has some autonomy and/or flexibility in school planning and decision-making. The School Performance Plan is developed with school district review and input.

#### **Exemplary Tier**

Exemplary Tier Schools are among the highest-performing schools in Washington based on student proficiency and/or student growth on the State assessments. The school is publicly acknowledged for its achievement through the Washington Achievement Awards. The Exemplary Tier schools are expected to continue the successful practices currently in place.

#### **Achievement Index Rating**

The annual school rating computed for a school based on proficiency, growth, and if a high school, college and career readiness measures.

## College and Career Readiness (CCR)

This indicator represents a multiple measures of College and Career Readiness. The measure is currently based upon the 5-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and in the future will include a Dual Credit Attainment/Industry Certification measure and a proficiency measure derived from the 11<sup>th</sup> Grade SBAC.

#### **Composite Index Rating**

The Composite Index rating is a three-year average of the three annual Achievement Index ratings.

#### **ELL**

English Language Learners (ELLs) are students who have limited proficiency with the English language as measured by language assessment tools. For the purposes of the Achievement Index, the performance of Former ELL students and Current ELL students are reported separately.

#### **Focus School**

A Focus School is a school that has room for substantial improvement in the area of student achievement with specific subgroup populations. Focus Schools are among the lowest-performing schools in Washington based on the Achievement

Index indicators. A Focus School Improvement Plan concentrates on achievement gaps specific to the subgroups that have challenged the school. Plans examine data and require effective strategies that will address these gaps.

**FRL** 

Students who are eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch (FRL) are students from households that qualify by income to receive free or reduced-price lunch at their school

**Graduation Rate** 

The method used to calculate the graduation rate in Washington is the 5-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR). The 5-Year ACGR is essentially the rate at which 9<sup>th</sup> graders graduate by the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and then one additional year.

**Growth Indicator** 

The Growth indicator rating is a combination of median student growth percentiles (MSGP) in reading and mathematics, weighted equally.

**Growth Model Data** 

Student Growth is a measure of performance on the State assessments over time. Students who perform similarly on the first administration of the test are compared to each other after the second. Each student's relative performance to each other is measured as a percentile. This value is called the Student Growth Percentile or SGP. Separate SGP determinations are made for Reading and Math.

**IEP** 

Students on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) are those who are receiving special education services.

**Median SGP** 

Median Student Growth Percentile is a summary of Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) for a school or group. SGP is a measure of student achievement over time that compares the achievement of similar groups of students from one test administration to the next. In this way, SGP is a measure of relative student achievement.

**MGP** 

Median Growth Percentile (MGP) is a summary of Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) for a school or group.

N Count

This is the number of students who contributed to the calculation for the associated indicator. Where there are less than twenty students, the report will not display a value.

**Not Rated** 

Schools that did not have a sufficient number of student records in one or more category of the school index earn a designation of "Not Rated". For Not Rated schools, where there are a sufficient number of student records for some indicators, the results are reported.

**Percent** 

A percent is a number that represents the part of the whole. A student who gets 8 out of 10 questions correct earns an 80%.

**Percent Met** 

Some of the indicators in the Achievement Index are measured against student achievement targets. Measures reported as Percent Met is the percent of students who met those achievement targets.

Percentile

A percentile can be thought of as a partition that marks where all the values in a data set are below this number. Each set of data has 99 percentiles. If a student earns a score in the 78<sup>th</sup> percentile it means that 78% of the students scored lower.

**Priority School** 

A Priority School is in need of substantial improvement in whole school proficiency and growth (and graduation rate for high schools). Intensive support from the OSPI and the district will provide this school with the means necessary for improvement. Priority Schools are among the lowest-achieving schools in Washington based upon whole school proficiency and growth over the three most recent school years. A district with a Priority School must implement one of the four federally approved or a state approved intervention model. A Priority School Improvement Plan requires heightened district and OSPI involvement. This plan must incorporate prescribed strategies and interventions in order to ensure effective impact on the programs, practices, and/or strategies for improvement. The school's educators, community and district staff work together extensively to implement this comprehensive plan and to affect change.

#### **Proficiency**

Proficiency is a measure of the percent of students who earned a passing score on the State assessments.

#### **Proficiency Indicator**

The Proficiency indicator rating is a combination of proficiency in reading, mathematics, writing and science. Subjects will be weighted equally to calculate the Proficiency Indicator.

#### **Proficiency Rate**

This is the percent of continuously enrolled students at the school who passed the state assessments.

### **Reward School - High Graduation**

High Graduation Reward Schools are those with a three-year average Achievement Index graduation rating of at least 9.0 for the whole school and a Targeted Subgroup graduation gap less than 1.0.

### Reward School - High Progress

Reward-High Progress schools are among the highest performing schools with respect to reading and math improvement on the State assessments.

### Reward School – Math Growth

Reward – Math Growth schools are recognized through the Washington Achievement Awards for being among the top five percent of schools in the state based on school math MGP.

# Reward School – Overall Excellence

Reward schools are among the highest performing schools in Washington in student proficiency and/or student growth on the State assessments. This school is recognized for being among the top five percent of schools in student achievement on the Composite Index rating. Schools meeting AMOs in reading and math for the three most recent years for the all students group and all ESEA subgroups are also recognized for Overall Excellence at the Washington Achievement Awards.

# Reward School – Reading Growth

Reward – Reading Growth schools are recognized through the Washington Achievement Awards for being among the top five percent of schools in the state based on school reading MGP.

# School Median Growth Percentile (MGP)

Median Growth Percentile (MGP) is a summary of Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) for a school or group. SGP is a measure of student achievement over time that compares the achievement of similar groups of students from one assessment administration to the next. In this way, SGP is a measure of relative student achievement.

**SGP** 

The school Median Growth Percentile is a summary of Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) for a school or subgroup. SGP is a measure of student achievement over time that compares the achievement of similar groups of students from one assessment administration to the next. In this way, SGP is a measure of relative student achievement. Separate calculations are made for Reading/ELA and Math.

**Subgroup** 

For the purposes of the Achievement Index, subgroup refers to students who are on an Individual Education Plan (IEP), are English Language Learners (ELL), Former ELL, or are eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (FRL).

**Subpopulation** 

For the purposes of the Achievement Index, subpopulation refers to student groups distinguished by ethnicity and/or subgroup membership. The Achievement Index reports on seven race/ethnicity subpopulations (H = Hispanic, A = Asian, B = Black, I = Native American, P = Pacific Islander, C = Caucasian, M = Multi-race). Subgroup refers to students who are on an Individual Education Plan (IEP), are English Language Learners (ELL) or are eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (FRL).

**SWD** 

Students with a disability and on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) are those who are receiving special education services. For the purposes of the Achievement Index, only students who were on an IEP at the time of testing factor into the IEP calculations.

**Targeted Subgroup** 

For the purposes of the Achievement Index, the Targeted Subgroup the average performance of Hispanic, African American, Native American, Pacific Islander, ELL, Former ELL, SWD, and FRL subgroups and subpopulations.

Title I

Title I is a section of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) that is aimed at helping low-income students who are at risk of failing in school.